

REMARKS

Claims 38-40, 43, 45, 49-52, 55, 57, 58, 60-64, and 66-73 are now pending in this application, with Claims 38, 43, 45, 49, 51, 52, 55, 57, 64, 66, 67, and 70-73 being independent.

By this Amendment, Applicants have cancelled Claims 41, 42, 44, 46-48, 53, 54, 56, 59, 65, 74, and 75, and have amended Claims 45, 51, 52, 55, 57, 64, 66, 67, 70, and 71.

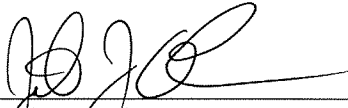
Claims 38-40, 43, 49, 50, 72, and 73 are allowed. In addition, Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for acknowledging that Claims 45, 51, 52, 55, 57, 60-64, and 66-71 are merely objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claims 45, 51, 52, 55, 57, 64, 66, 67, 70, and 71 have been rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, Applicants request allowance of those claims.

Claims 41, 42, and 44 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102. Claims 41, 42, 44, 46-48, 54, 56, 58, 59, and 65 stand provisionally rejected on the grounds of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting. These rejected claims have been canceled.

Accordingly, all the claims that remain pending in the present application are allowable and Applicants request a Notice of Allowance.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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